Office of the Governor State of North Carolina

Roy Cooper Governor



20301 Mail Service Center Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301

October 17, 2019

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Paul Coble
North Carolina Legislative Services Office
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

RE: Public Records Request of the North Carolina General Assembly

Dear Mr. Coble,

In the December 21, 2018 response to my December 12, 2018 Public Records Request, legislators refused to provide any records other than a dozen emails between one legislator and various members of the public. In the letter from Senator Harry Brown's office, his staff indicated that any additional records were either not public records under North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 132 or were covered by the so-called legislative privilege. I write again to request full compliance with my Public Records Request from last year, and to make a related request regarding public information recently assembled on behalf of the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and Subcommittee on Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

For your background, the Administration has produced tens if not hundreds of thousands of documents to you and the public regarding the ACP, Dominion Power, Duke Energy, pipelines and solar energy. By contrast, we received just a dozen emails between Senator Harry Brown and members of the public.

A legislative inquisition should not be allowed to hide behind a self-serving exception to the State's public records laws that protects legislators and their activities from public scrutiny while requiring every other governmental body and public official in North Carolina to make their records and communications public. The internal legislative communications and the work of the legislative contractors should be made publicly available.

The public deserves to know who instigated this sham investigation, what outside influences encouraged its revival and who stands to benefit from its continuance.

Therefore, pursuant to the North Carolina Public Records Act, N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-1 et seq., please provide copies of the following:

- 1. To the extent they have not already been provided, all records responsive to my Public Records Request directed to the North Carolina General Assembly on December 12, 2018 (attached as Exhibit A).
- 2. All records that reference or relate to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations' and Subcommittee on Atlantic Coast Pipeline's investigation or oversight of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, or the investigation by Eagle Intel Services, LLC in connection with the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (collectively, the "Investigation"). This request includes but is not limited to:
 - (a) Internal and external communications by or between legislators (including but not limited to Sen. Harry Brown, Rep. Dean Arp, Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Berger, and Speaker Tim Moore), legislative staff, and third parties (including employees or agents of the Republican Party and employees or agents of Eagle Intel Services LLC), or any combination thereof, that relate to the Investigation;
 - (b) All documents, reports, recordings, files, texts, instant messages, electronic communications of any kind, or other records created in connection with the Investigation, whether on state-owned or private devices and accounts;
 - (c) All communications, and any records thereof, to or from Frank Brostrom, Thomas Beers, or Kevin Greene that relate to the Investigation; and
 - (d) All transcripts, notes, recordings, or other records of interviews conducted during the course of the Investigation.

Please provide the records in digital format and deliver them no later than October 25, 2019 to the above address via email, USB portable drive, or DVD-ROM, as per N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 132-6.2(a) and (e). If digital copies of any requested documents are not available, we agree to pay reasonable copying fees, as per N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-6.2.

I have copied the members of Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and Subcommittee on Atlantic Coast Pipeline, as well as Frank Brostrom, Thomas Beers, and Kevin Greene of Eagle Intel Services, LLC on this Request. If any responsive public records are in their possession, custody, or control, they should provide them to us along with any response you provide.

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If you choose to deny this public records request in whole or in part for any reason, please specify the records being withheld and provide a written explanation for the denial, including a reference to the specific statutory exemption(s) upon which you rely for each denial.

Sincerely,

Kristi Jones Chief of Staff

cc: Members of Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and Subcommittee on Atlantic Coast Pipeline (via hand delivery)

Frank Brostrom
Thomas Beers
Kevin Greene
c/o Eagle Intel Services, LLC
6212 Tree Toad Court
Wilmington, NC 28411